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World Book

Material on

Abe Lincoln

for

Civil War
Section of

Veterans
Book

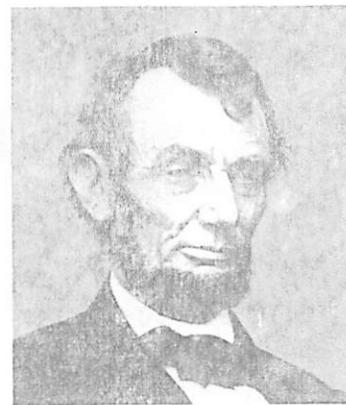
— T. ANTONIO
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PIERCE
14th President
1853 — 1857



BUCHANAN
15th President
1857 — 1861



Mathew Brady, Library of Congress

ABRAHAM
LINCOLN



JOHNSON
17th President
1865 — 1869



GRANT
18th President
1869 — 1877

A. Lincoln

16TH PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES 1861-1865

LINCOLN, ABRAHAM (1809-1865), was one of the truly great men of all time. He preserved the American Union during the Civil War, and proved to the world that democracy can be a lasting form of government. Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, and many of his other speeches and writings, are classic statements of democratic beliefs and goals. In conducting a bitter war, Lincoln never became bitter himself. He showed a nobility of character which continues to grow in world-wide appeal. Lincoln was the first President elected by the Republican party. After his assassination, he was succeeded by Vice-President Andrew Johnson.

The American people knew little about Lincoln when he became President. Nothing in his past experience indicated that he could meet successfully the greatest crisis in the nation's history. He received less than 40 per cent of the popular vote. As President, Lincoln was often a careless, inefficient administrator. At times, he gave way to political pressures which he might better have resisted.

But these failings mattered little when compared with Lincoln's great merits. His outstanding asset was insight. Lincoln realized at the beginning of the Civil War that the Union must be saved. The United States was the only important democracy in the world. Lincoln knew that self-government would be proved a failure if the nation could be destroyed by a minority of its own people. He determined that the nation, and democracy, would not be destroyed.

Lincoln's second great asset was his ability to express his convictions so clearly, and with such force, that millions of his countrymen made them their own. This he did in his first and second inaugural addresses, in his annual messages to Congress, in the Gettysburg Address, and in his letters. Lincoln would have been surprised that some of his speeches came to be honored as great literature. He sought only to be understood, and to convince.

Lincoln's third great source of strength was his iron will. The Civil War had to be carried on until the Union

was restored. At times, people in the North wavered in this purpose. Lincoln never doubted that in the end, right would make might, and the North would triumph. His unyielding faith in victory helped to win victory.

If the Union had not been preserved, the United States would have become two nations. Neither of these nations could have attained the prosperity and importance that the United States has today. Lincoln influenced the course of world history by his leadership of the North during the Civil War. His own life story has perhaps been just as important. He rose from humble origin to the nation's highest office. Millions of persons regard his career as proof that democracy offers all men the best hope of full and free life.

Life in the United States during Lincoln's administration revolved almost entirely around the Civil War. To raise money to fight the war, Congress levied the first income tax in the history of the country. For the first time, federal officeholders had to take an oath of loyalty to the Union. Pioneers flocked to the western frontier, and mining towns sprang up overnight. The government gave free farms to settlers, and set aside land for colleges that later became state universities.

Soldiers and civilians alike sang "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" or "Dixie." Winslow Homer's painting *Prisoners from the Front* brought him his first fame. Patriotic literature included John Greenleaf Whittier's poem "Barbara Fritchie" and Edward Everett Hale's story "The Man Without a Country." Lincoln and thousands of other Americans chuckled at the humorous writings of Artemus Ward.

Early Life

Family Background. Soon after Lincoln was nominated for the presidency, he wrote an autobiography. It began: "Abraham Lincoln was born Feb. 12, 1809, then in Hardin, now in the more recently formed county of Larue, Kentucky. His father, Thomas, & grandfather Abraham, were born in Rockingham county Virginia, whither their ancestors had come from Berks county Pennsylvania. His lineage has been traced no farther back than this."

Since Lincoln's time, his ancestry has been traced to a weaver named Samuel Lincoln who emigrated from

Lincoln's Favorite Photograph served as the model for this painting by Allen Tupper True. The portrait is in the Huntington Library and Art Gallery in San Marino, Calif.



BOYHOOD YEARS

— IMPORTANT DATES IN LINCOLN'S LIFE ——

- 1809 (Feb. 12) Born near present-day Hodgenville, Ky.
1834 Elected to the Illinois General Assembly.
1842 (Nov. 4) Married Mary Todd.
1846 Elected to the U.S. House of Representatives.
1858 Debated slavery with Stephen A. Douglas.
1860 (Nov. 6) Elected President of the United States.
1864 (Nov. 8) Re-elected President.
1865 (April 14) Shot by John Wilkes Booth.
1865 (April 15) Died in Washington, D.C.

Hingham, England, to Hingham, Mass., in 1637. This was only 17 years after the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock. Samuel Lincoln founded the Lincoln family in America. The families of his children played important parts in Massachusetts history. Descendants of Mordecat Lincoln, a son of Samuel, moved to New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. One was a great-great-grandson named Abraham. This Abraham Lincoln was the grandfather of the future President. He owned a farm in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia during the Revolutionary War. In 1782, he and his wife and five small children started over the long trail to the wilderness of Kentucky. An Indian killed him there in 1786.

One of his sons, Thomas Lincoln, became the father of the future President. In later years, the President said

his father was "a wandering, laboring boy, and grew up literally without education." Thomas Lincoln worked as a frontier hand during most of his youth. But he learned enough skill at woodworking to earn a living as a carpenter. In 1806, when he was 28 years old, he married Nancy Hanks. Nancy came from what her son described as an "undistinguished" Virginia family of humble, ordinary people. Historians know only that she was the daughter of a Lucy Hanks.

Thomas and Nancy Lincoln lived in Elizabethtown, Ky., for the first 18 months of their marriage. Their first child, Sarah, was born there in 1807. The next year,

Thomas Lincoln bought a farm on the South Fork of the Nolin River, about 5 miles (8 kilometers) south of Eliza-

bethown. Abraham Lincoln was born on this farm.

Boyhood. The Lincolns lived for two years on the

farm where Abraham was born. Then they moved to a farm on Knob Creek, 10 miles (16 kilometers) away.

When Sarah and Abraham could be spared from their chores, they went to a log schoolhouse. There the children learned reading, writing, and arithmetic.

Many persons believe that because Lincoln began his life in a log cabin, he was born in poverty. But many families lived in log cabins during the early 1800's. The Lincolns were as comfortable as most of their neighbors, and Abraham and Sarah were well fed and well clothed for the times. A third child, Thomas, died in infancy.

Thomas Lincoln had trouble over property rights throughout his years in Kentucky. In 1816, he decided to move to Indiana, where a man could buy land directly from the government. Besides, Thomas Lincoln did not believe in slavery, and Indiana had no slavery.

The Lincolns loaded their possessions into a wagon. They traveled northward to the Ohio River and were ferried across. Then they traveled through the thick forests to Spencer County, in southwestern Indiana. There, Thomas Lincoln began the task of changing 160 acres (65 hectares) of forest land into a farm.

Lincoln's Birthplace, a log cabin near Hodgenville, Ky., may have been the cabin that now stands at the Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site, above. Travels of the Lincolns took them to Knob Creek, Ky., in 1811, then to Indiana in 1816, and to Illinois in 1830. Lincoln moved on his own to New Salem, Ill., in 1831.

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Kentucky. They arrived early in winter, and needed shelter at once. Thomas and his son built a three-sided structure made of logs, called a "half-faced camp." Soon after finishing this shelter, the boy and his father began to build a log cabin. The family moved into it in mid-February, 1817.

Bears and other wild animals roamed the forests of this remote region. Trees had to be cut and firewood cleared so that a crop could be planted. Although Abraham was only 8, he was large for his age and had enough strength to swing an ax. For as long as he lived in Indiana, he was seldom without his ax. He once called it "that most useful instrument."

Slowly, life became happier on the farm. Then, in October, 1818, Nancy Lincoln died of what the pioneer called "milk sickness." This illness was probably caused by poison in the milk of cows that had eaten shakerel. Thomas buried his wife among the trees on a hill near the cabin. The lack of a funeral service distressed 9-year-old Abraham. He was not content until a traveling preacher conducted a burial service over his mother's grave several months later.

The cabin became dull and cheerless after the death of Nancy Lincoln. Sarah, now 12, kept house, as well as she could for more than a year. Then Thomas Lincoln returned to Kentucky for a visit. While there, on Dec. 1, 1819, he married Sarah Bush Johnston, a widow. He had known her before her first marriage. The new Mrs. Lincoln brought along her three children, aged 12, 5 and 3, and a wagonload of furniture and household goods. Her arrival at the cabin in Indiana ended a long month of loneliness. Years later, Abraham Lincoln remembered little about his own mother. He may have referred to his stepmother when he said: "God bless my mother; all that I am or ever hope to be I owe to her."

Education. Abraham Lincoln grew from a boy of 7 to a man of 21 on the wild Indiana frontier. His education can best be described in his own words:

"There were some schools, so called; but no qualified teacher was ever required of a teacher, beyond 'readin' writin', and cipherin';' to the Rule of Three. If a struggle

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OD YEARS



Brown Bros.

Hodgenville, Ky.,
is at the Abraham
above.

to Knob Creek, Ky.,
ed to Illinois in 1830.
Salem, Ill., in 1831.

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from a boy of 7 to fer. His education d; but no qualifi r, beyond 'readin, tree. If a straggler



supposed to understand Latin, happened to sojourn in the neighborhood, he was looked upon as a wizzard. There was absolutely nothing to excite ambition for education. Of course when I came of age I did not know much. Still somehow, I could read, write, and cipher to the Rule of Three; but that was all."

Lincoln's formal schooling totaled less than a year. Books could rarely be found on the frontier, and paper was almost as scarce. Like other boys and girls of his time, Lincoln made his own arithmetic textbook. Several pages of this book still exist. Abraham often worked his arithmetic problems on boards, then shaved the boards clean with a drawknife, and used them again and again. He would walk a great distance for a book. The few he could borrow were good ones. They included *Robinson Crusoe*, *Pilgrim's Progress*, *Aesop's Fables*, a history of the United States, and a schoolbook or two.

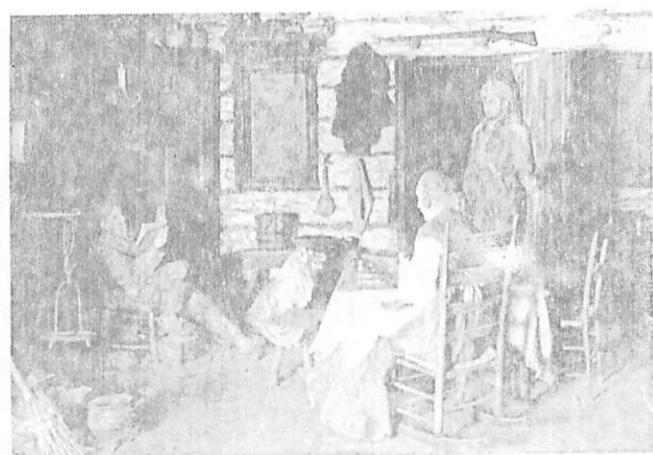
In 1823, when Abraham was 14, his parents joined the Pigeon Creek Baptist Church. There was bitter rivalry among Baptists, Methodists, Presbyterians, and members of other denominations. Young Lincoln disliked any display of bitterness among Christian people. This may explain why he never joined any church, and why he never attended church regularly. Yet he became a man of deep religious feelings. The Bible was probably the only book his parents ever owned. Abraham came to know it thoroughly. Biblical references and quotations enriched his later writings and speeches. As President, he kept a Bible on his desk and often opened it for comfort and guidance.

Another book also impressed the boy deeply, and led him to an understanding of the meaning of democracy. He told about it years later in a speech before the New Jersey Senate:

"May I be pardoned if, on this occasion, I mention that away back in my childhood, the earliest days of my being able to read, I got hold of a small book, such a one as few of the younger members have ever seen, Weems' *Life of Washington*. I remember all the accounts there given of the battle fields and struggles for the liberties of the country . . . and you all know, for you have all been boys, how these early impressions last longer than any others. I recollect thinking then, boy even though I was, that there must have been some-



Abraham Helped Build a Cabin when the family moved to Indiana. Lincoln's mother died on this isolated frontier farm in 1818.

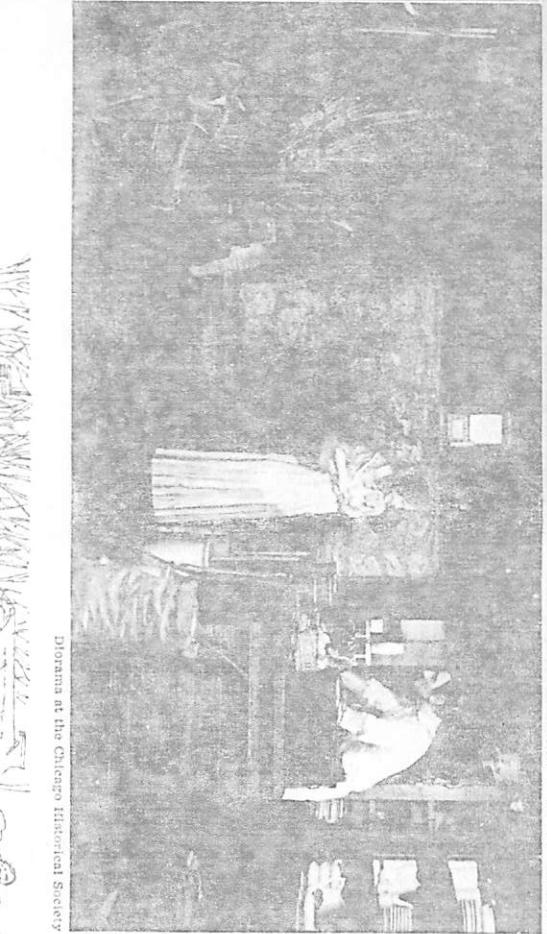


Lincoln Studied by Firelight after working on the farm all day. This diorama, or three-dimensional scene, shows Lincoln and his parents in their log cabin on the Indiana frontier.

The Family Crossed into Illinois in 1830, and settled on a farm about 10 miles (16 kilometers) from Decatur. On the way, Abraham rescued a dog trapped in an icy stream.

Dioramas at the Chicago Historical Society

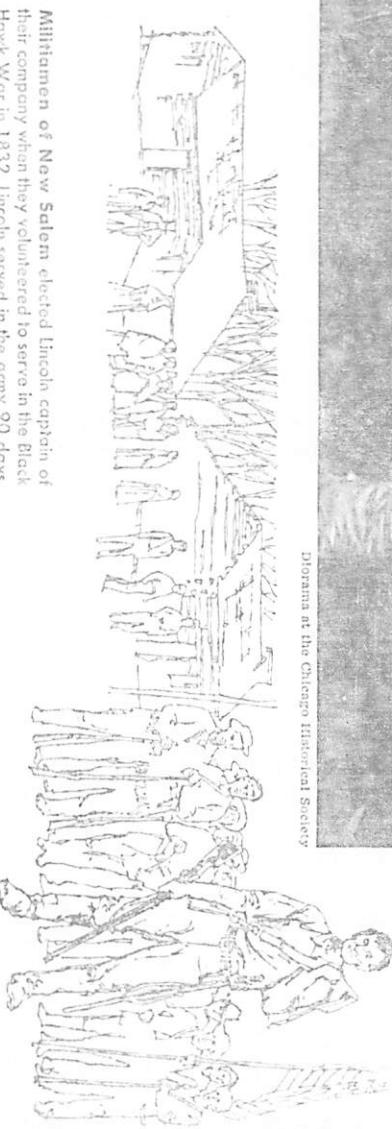




Diorama at the Chicago Historical Society

NEW SALEM YEARS

Lincoln's First Job after moving to New Salem, Ill., in 1831 was as a clerk in the store of Denton Offutt. He lived in a room at the rear of the store. Lincoln later became postmaster of New Salem.



Militiamen of New Salem elected Lincoln captain of their company when they volunteered to serve in the Black Hawk War in 1832. Lincoln served in the army 90 days.

thing more than common that those men struggled for."

Youth on the Frontier. Abraham reached his full height of 6 feet 4 inches (193 centimeters) long before he was 20. He was thin and awkward, big-boned and strong. The young man developed great strength in his chest and legs, and especially in his arms. He had a horned face and dark skin. His hair was black and coarse, and stood on end.

Even as a boy, Lincoln showed ability as a speaker. He often amused himself and others by imitating some preacher or politician who had spoken in the area. People liked to gather at the general store in the crossroads village of Gentryville. Lincoln's gift for telling stories made him a favorite with the people there. In spite of

his youth, he was well known in his neighborhood.

A boy of Lincoln's size and strength had no trouble finding hard work. People always needed great piles of cut wood for cooking and for warmth. He could split logs for fence rails. He could plow fields, cut and husk corn, and thresh wheat with a flail. Lincoln worked for a neighbor when his father could spare him.

The Ohio River, 15 miles (24 kilometers) away, attracted Lincoln strongly. The first money he earned was for rowing passengers to a steamboat in midstream. In 1828, he helped take a flatboat loaded with farm produce to New Orleans. The trip gave him his first view of the world beyond his own community. That same year, his sister died in childbirth.

In 1830, Thomas Lincoln decided to move again. The years in Indiana had not been successful. The dread milk sickness was again striking down settlers. Relatives in Illinois sent word of deep, rich, black soil on the treeless prairies. The Lincolns and several other families packed their belongings and started west. They reached their destination two weeks later, and settled 10 miles (16 kilometers) west of Decatur, on the north bank of the Sangamon River.

Lincoln was now 21, and free to strike out for himself. But he remained with his father one more year. He helped plant the first crop, and split rails for a cabin and fences. He worked for neighboring settlers during the winter. In the spring of 1831, when the streams were high, a trader named Denton Offutt hired Lincoln and two other young men to take a flatboat to New Orleans. This trip gave Offutt a good impression of his lad's boat hand. He hired Lincoln as a clerk in his new store in the village of New Salem, Ill., 20 miles (32 kilometers) northwest of Springfield. While Lincoln was away, his parents moved to Coles County, where they never for the rest of their lives.

New Salem Years

Life on Ms. Own began for Lincoln when he settled in New Salem. He lived there almost six years, from July, 1831, until the spring of 1837. The village consisted of log cabins clustered around a mill, a tannery, a maker's shop, a wool-carding machine, and a few general stores.

The people of the village helped Lincoln in many ways. The older women mended his clothes, and often gave him meals. Jack Kelso, the village philosopher, introduced him to the writings of Shakespeare and Robert Burns. These works, and the Bible, became his favorite reading.

Lincoln arrived in New Salem, as he said, "a piece of floating driftwood." He earned little, and slept in a room at the rear of Offutt's store. Within a few months the business failed. Lincoln would have been out of job if the Black Hawk War had not begun in 1832.

The Black Hawk War. In 1832, the federal government had moved the Sauk and Fox Indians from Illinois to Iowa. In the spring of 1832, Chief Black Hawk led a band of several hundred Indians back across the Mississippi River to try to regain their lands near Rock

NEW SALEM YEARS

Lincoln's First Job after he moved to New Salem, Ill., in 1831 was as a clerk in the store of Denton Offutt. He lived at the rear of the store. Lincoln later became master of New Salem.



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Island (see BLACK HAWK). The governor called out the militia, and Lincoln volunteered for service.

Lincoln's company consisted of men from the New Salem area. The men promptly elected him captain. This was only nine months after he had settled in the village. Even after he had been nominated for President, Lincoln said this honor "gave me more pleasure than any I have had since." His comrades liked his friendliness, his honesty, and his skill at storytelling. They also admired his great strength and his sportsmanship in wrestling matches and other contests.

Lincoln's term of service ended after 30 days, but he re-enlisted, this time as a private. A month later, he enlisted again. He served a total of 90 days, but saw no fighting. He later recalled that he had "a good many bloody struggles with the mosquitoes."

Search for a Career. Before his military service, many of Lincoln's friends had encouraged him to become a candidate for the state legislature. Spurred by their faith, he announced his candidacy in March, 1832. The Black Hawk War prevented him from making much of a campaign. He arrived home in July, only two weeks before the election. Lincoln was defeated in the election, but the people in his own precinct gave him 277 of their 300 votes.

Lincoln faced the problem of making a living. He thought of studying law, but decided he could not succeed without a better education. Just then, he had a chance to buy a New Salem store on credit, in partnership with William F. Berry. Lincoln later recalled that the partnership "did nothing but get deeper and deeper in debt." The store failed after a few months.

In May, 1833, Lincoln was appointed postmaster of New Salem. Soon afterward, the county surveyor offered to make him a deputy. Lincoln knew nothing about surveying, but he prepared for the work by hard study. Odd jobs and fees from his two public offices earned him a living.

Berry died in 1835, leaving Lincoln liable for the debts of the partnership, about \$1,100. It took Lincoln several years to pay these debts, but he finally did it. His integrity helped him earn the nickname "Honest Abe."

In New Salem, Lincoln knew a girl named Ann Rutledge. When she died in the summer of 1835, he grieved deeply. His sorrow gave rise to a belief that he and Ann had planned to be married. Careful study has reduced their supposed love affair to a myth. This conclusion is supported by the fact that Lincoln proposed marriage to a Kentucky girl, Mary Owens, less than 18 months later. He met her while she was visiting her sister in New Salem. The affair was not ardent on either side, and Miss Owens rejected him.

Success in Politics. In 1834, Lincoln again ran for the legislature. He had become better known by this time, and won election as a Whig (see WHIG). He served four successive two-year terms in the lower house of the Illinois General Assembly. During his first term, he met a young Democratic legislator, Stephen A. Douglas.

Lincoln quickly came to the front in the legislature. He was witty and ready in debate. His skill in party management enabled him to become the Whig floor leader at the beginning of his second term. He took a leading part in the adoption of a plan for a system of railroads and canals. This plan broke down after the

LINCOLN, ABRAHAM

Panic of 1837. Lincoln also led a successful campaign for moving the state capital from Vandalia to Springfield.

While in the legislature, Lincoln made his first public statement on slavery. In 1837, the legislature passed resolutions condemning abolition societies. These societies urged freedom for slaves. Lincoln and another legislator, Dan Stone, filed a protest. They admitted that Congress had no power to interfere with slavery in the states where it existed. They believed that "the promulgation of abolition doctrines tend rather to increase than abate its evils." Their protest arose from the fact that the legislature failed to call slavery an evil practice. Lincoln and Stone declared that "the institution of slavery is founded on both injustice and bad policy." Slavery had become an even greater issue 23 years later, when Lincoln was nominated for President. He said then that his protest in the Illinois legislature still expressed his position on slavery.

Lincoln the Lawyer

Study. In 1834, during Lincoln's second campaign for the legislature, John T. Stuart had urged him to study law. Stuart was an attorney in Springfield and a member of the legislature. Lincoln overcame his doubts about his education. He borrowed law books from Stuart and studied them. He sometimes walked 20 miles (32 kilometers) from New Salem to Springfield for books. Henry E. Dummer, Stuart's law partner, recalled:

"Sometimes he walked, but generally rode. He was the most uncouth looking young man I ever saw. He seemed to have but little to say; seemed to feel timid, with a tinge of sadness visible in the countenance, but when he did talk all this disappeared for the time and he demonstrated that he was both strong and acute. He surprised us more and more at every visit."

On Sept. 9, 1836, Lincoln received his license to practice law, although his name was not entered on the roll of attorneys until March 1, 1837. The population of New Salem had dropped by that time, and Lincoln decided to move to the new state capital. Carrying all he owned in his saddlebags, he rode into Springfield on April 15, 1837. There he became the junior partner in the law firm of Stuart and Lincoln.

In Lincoln's time, there were few law schools. Most lawyers simply "read law" in the office of an attorney. Years later, in giving advice to a law student, Lincoln explained his method of study:

"If you are resolutely determined to make a lawyer of yourself, the thing is more than half done already. It is but a small matter whether you read with anybody or not. I did not read with anyone. Get the books, and read and study them till you understand them in their principal features; and that is the main thing. It is of no consequence to be in a large town while you are reading. I read at New Salem, which never had three hundred people living in it. The books, and your capacity for understanding them, are just the same in all places . . . Always bear in mind that your own resolution to succeed, is more important than any other one thing."

Early Practice. Lincoln's partnership with Stuart lasted until the spring of 1841. Then he became the

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LINCOLN, ABRAHAM

junior partner of Stephen T. Logan, one of the greatest lawyers who ever practiced in Illinois. This partnership ended in the fall of 1844.

Lincoln then asked William H. Herndon to become his partner. Herndon, nine years younger than Lincoln, had just received his license to practice law. Lincoln called him "Billy," but Herndon always called his partner "Mr. Lincoln." The two men never formally dissolved their law firm. More than 16 years later, Lincoln visited his old office on his last day in Springfield before leaving for Washington to be inaugurated as President. He noticed the firm's signboard at the foot of the steps and said: "Let it hang there undisturbed. Give our clients to understand that the election of a President makes no change in the firm of Lincoln and Herndon."

The practice of law in Illinois was not specialized in Lincoln's time. He tried his first case in the circuit court of Sangamon County. He practiced in the Illinois federal courts within two years after his admission to the bar. A year later, he tried the first of many cases in the state supreme court. But all the while, he also handled cases before justices of the peace. He also gave advice and opinions on many matters for small fees.

Lincoln's Family. Soon after Lincoln moved to Springfield, he met Mary Todd (Dec. 13, 1818-July 16, 1882), a lively, dark-haired Kentucky girl who lived there with a married sister. They had a stormy courtship and at one time broke their engagement. They were married on Nov. 4, 1842, when Lincoln was 33 and his bride was 23.

Mary Todd Lincoln was high-strung and socially ambitious. Lincoln tended to be moody and absent-minded. Their contrasting personalities caused friction.

But their marriage was not so discordant as some writers have described it. See LINCOLN, MARY TODD.

Lincoln and his bride first lived in a Springfield boardinghouse, where they paid \$4 a week. Eighteen months after his marriage, Lincoln bought the plain but comfortable frame house in which the family lived until he became President. By the time he bought the house, his first son, Robert Todd Lincoln, was 9 months old (see LINCOLN, ROBERT TODD). His second son, Edward Baker Lincoln, was born in 1846, but died four years later. William Wallace Lincoln, born in 1850, died in the White House at the age of 11. Their fourth son, Thomas Lincoln, became famous during his father's administration as "Tad." He became ill and died in 1871 at the age of 18.

The family lived modestly but comfortably. Lincoln was never the poverty-stricken failure of legend. He often cared for his own horse and milked the family cow, but so did most of his neighbors. The family usually had a servant to help with the housework.

Riding the Circuit. The state of Illinois was, and still is, divided into circuits for judicial purposes. Each circuit consisted of several counties where court was held in turn. The judge and many lawyers traveled from county to county. They tried such cases as came their way during each term.

Lincoln "traveled the circuit" for six months each year. He loved this kind of life. The small inns where the lawyers stayed had few comforts, but they offered many opportunities for meeting people. Lively talk and storytelling appealed to Lincoln. He also liked the long rides across the prairies. Lincoln's circuit at its largest included 15 counties, and covered about 8,000 square miles (21,000 square kilometers).

Lincoln developed traits as a lawyer that made him

LINCOLN THE LAWYER



■ LINCOLN LAW CIRCUIT
○ COURTHOUSES WHERE LINCOLN PRACTICED
● SITES OF LINCOLN-DOUGLAS DEBATES



Lincoln, The Circuit Rider, by B. W. Kuhn.
Courtesy Chicago & Illinois Museum.

Lincoln "Rode the Circuit" for six months each year. He traveled about in a buggy, taking what case he could get at county courthous-

— J. ANGOLD, * 1871
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Gothic and Early

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TODD.

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well known throughout Illinois. He could argue a case strongly when convinced that his client was right. If doubtful, he was much less powerful. He persuaded clients to settle their differences out of court whenever possible. This usually meant a smaller fee, or no fee at all, for him. In court, Lincoln could present a case so that 12 jurors, often poorly educated, could not fail to understand it. He could also argue a complicated case before a well-informed judge. He prepared his cases thoroughly, and was unfailingly honest.

National Politics

Search for Advancement. After four terms in the Illinois legislature, Lincoln wanted an office with greater prestige. He had served the Whig party well, and election to Congress became his goal.

In 1840, Lincoln made a speaking tour of the state for William Henry Harrison, the Whig candidate for President. He believed his service had earned him the nomination for Congress from his district. In 1843, and again in 1844, the nomination went to other men. Disappointed, but not bitter, Lincoln worked for the election of Henry Clay, the Whig presidential candidate in 1844. Two years later, Lincoln received his reward, and won the Whig nomination for the U.S. House of Representatives. His opponent in the election was Peter Cartwright, a well-known Methodist circuit rider. The Whigs held firm control of Lincoln's district, and he received 6,340 of the 11,418 votes cast.

Congressman. Lincoln took his seat in Congress on Dec. 6, 1847. By that time, the United States had won the Mexican War, although a peace treaty had not yet been signed. Lincoln joined his fellow Whigs in blaming President James K. Polk for the war. Lincoln voted to supply equipment to troops still in the field. But his stand against the President made him unpopular with the ardently patriotic people of his district.

Lincoln failed to make the reputation he had hoped for in Congress. He gave notice that he intended to introduce a bill to free the slaves in the District of Columbia, but he never did. He emphasized his position on slavery by supporting the Wilmot Proviso, which would have banned slavery in any territory acquired from Mexico (see WILMOT PROVISO).

Throughout his term, Lincoln supported the Whig policy of having the federal government pay for internal improvements. He made several speeches in support of this policy, and once reproved President Polk for vetoing a rivers and harbors appropriation bill. Lincoln worked for the nomination and election of Zachary Taylor, the Whig candidate for President in 1848.

Return to Law. Lincoln's term ended on March 4, 1849. He wanted another term, but knew he was too unpopular to win re-election. He tried unsuccessfully to get an appointment as Commissioner of the General Land Office. The administration offered to appoint him secretary, then governor, of Oregon Territory. Lincoln refused both offers.

Lincoln returned to Springfield, believing his political career had ended. He practiced law more earnestly than ever before. He continued to travel the circuit, but appeared more often in the higher courts. He also handled more important cases. Corporations and big businesses were becoming increasingly important in Illinois and neighboring states. Lincoln represented them fre-

LINCOLN, ABRAHAM

quently in lawsuits, and soon prospered. The largest fee he ever received, \$5,000, was for his successful defense of the Illinois Central Railroad in an important tax case. After 1849, Lincoln's reputation grew steadily. In the 1850's, he was known as one of the leading lawyers of Illinois.

Re-Entry into Politics. A sudden change in national policy toward slavery brought Lincoln back into politics. The Missouri Compromise of 1820 had prohibited slavery in new territories north of an east-west line that was an extension of Missouri's southern boundary (see MISSOURI COMPROMISE). Early in 1854, Senator Stephen A. Douglas of Illinois introduced a bill to organize the territories of Kansas and Nebraska. As approved by Congress, this Kansas-Nebraska Act repealed the Missouri Compromise. It provided that the settlers of new territories should decide for themselves whether they wanted slavery. See KANSAS-NEBRASKA ACT.

Lincoln and many others had believed that slavery had been permanently limited. The new policy outraged them. The Founding Fathers had written a promise of freedom and equality into the Declaration of Independence. Lincoln believed they had intended to keep slavery from spreading so it would one day die.

Lincoln revered the Founding Fathers. He once said: "I have never had a thought politically which did not spring from the sentiments embodied in the Declaration of Independence." Henry Clay had been his political idol during his years as a Whig politician, but he looked to Thomas Jefferson for his political principles.

Lincoln always opposed slavery, but he never became an abolitionist. He believed that the bonds holding the nation together would be strained if Americans made a rapid break with the past. Lincoln granted that slavery should have the protection that the Constitution gave it. But he wanted the people to realize that slavery was evil, and should not spread.

Douglas refused to admit that slavery was wrong. He said he did not care whether slavery was morally right or wrong. Lincoln believed that the nation stood for freedom and equality. He felt it must not be indifferent to the unjust treatment of any person. To ignore moral values, he said, "deprives our republican example of its just influence in the world." It enabled the enemies of free institutions "to taunt us as hypocrites." Lincoln resolved to return to politics and do what he could to reverse the Kansas-Nebraska Act.

A Turning Point in Lincoln's life came with his return to politics. He had always been honest, able, and ambitious. But he had worked mainly in the interest of his party and for personal advancement. After passage of the Kansas-Nebraska Act, Lincoln's aims became broader. He worked to make the nation's ideals come true. His ambitions remained, but he directed them to a higher purpose. He had always been a clever and forceful speaker. Now, a new sincerity and deep conviction lent even greater power to his words.

Lincoln entered the congressional election campaign of 1854 to help a candidate who opposed the Kansas-Nebraska Act. But when Senator Douglas returned to Illinois to justify the new law, Lincoln opposed him wherever he could. At Springfield, Peoria, and Chicago, Lincoln delivered such powerful speeches that he be-



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at county courthouses.

LINCOLN, ABRAHAM

came known as the leader of the Illinois forces opposing the Kansas-Nebraska Act. He was again elected to the Illinois legislature, but resigned in order to run for the United States Senate.

At that time, the legislature elected Senators. On the first ballot, Lincoln received 45 votes, which was 5 short of a majority. On each succeeding ballot, his vote dwindled. Finally, to keep a Douglas supporter from being elected, Lincoln persuaded his followers to vote for Lyman Trumbull, who had started with only 5 votes. Trumbull was elected.

The Whig party began falling apart during the 1850's because party members in various parts of the country could not agree on a solution to the slavery problem. In 1856, Lincoln joined the antislavery Republican party, then only two years old. During the presidential election campaign that year, he made more than a hundred speeches in behalf of John C. Frémont, the Republican candidate. Frémont lost the election to Democrat James Buchanan. But Lincoln had strengthened his own position in the party through his unselfish work.

The Debates with Douglas. In 1858, Lincoln was nominated to run against Douglas for the United States Senate. He accepted the honor with a speech that caused severe criticism. Many persons thought it stirred up conflict between the North and South. Lincoln said: "A house divided against itself cannot stand. I believe this government cannot endure, permanently half slave and half free. I do not expect the Union to be dissolved—I do not expect the house to fall—but I do expect it will cease to be divided. It will become all one thing, or all the other. Either the *opponents* of slavery will arrest the further spread of it, and place it where the public mind shall rest in the belief that it is in the course of ultimate extinction; or its *advocates* will push it forward till it shall become alike lawful in *all* the States—all as well as *now*, *North* as well as *South*."

After a few speeches, Lincoln challenged Douglas to a series of debates. Douglas accepted, and named seven places for the meetings. The first debate was held at Ottawa, Ill., on Aug. 21, 1858. The last was at Alton, Ill., on October 15. Each candidate spoke for an hour and a half. Large crowds attended, except at Jonsboro, in the southernmost part of the state. Newspapers reported the debates, and the two men drew national attention.

The debates centered on the extension of slavery into free territory. Douglas defended the policy of the Kansas-Nebraska Act. He called this policy *popular sovereignty*. His opponents ridiculed it as *squatter sovereignty* (see POPULAR SOVEREIGNTY). Lincoln argued that the Supreme Court of the United States, in the Dred Scott decision, had opened the way for slavery to enter all the territories (see DRED SCOTT DECISION). In the debate held at Freeport, Ill., Douglas denied this argument. He contended that the people of any territory could keep slavery out of that territory simply by refusing to pass local laws protecting it. This position became known as the *Freeport Doctrine*. Lincoln emphasized the moral issue throughout the campaign. He insisted that there was a fundamental difference between Douglass and himself. Douglass ignored the moral question of slavery, but Lincoln regarded slavery "as a moral, social, and political evil."

In addition to the debates, both men spoke almost daily to meetings of their own. Each traveled far and wide. Before the exhausting campaign ended, Douglas' deep bass voice had become so husky that it was hard to understand him. Lincoln's high, penetrating voice still reached the limits of a large audience.

In the election, Lincoln candidates for the legislature received more votes than their opponents. But the state was divided into districts in such a way that Douglass

men won a majority of the seats. As a result, Douglass was re-elected by a vote of 54 to 46.

The debates made Lincoln a national figure. Early in 1859, he delivered an address at Cooper Union in New York City. The speech ended with the famous plea:

"Let us have faith that right makes might, and in that faith let us to the end dare to do our duty as we understand it." This address and others delivered later in New England made a strong impression on many influential eastern Republicans.

Election of 1860. The Republican national convention met in Chicago on May 16, 1860. Lincoln was by no means unknown to the delegates. The week before, at the Illinois state Republican convention, his supporters had nicknamed him "the Railsplitter." This nickname, recalling the days when Lincoln had split rails for fences, helped make him even better known among the delegates. But other party leaders had larger followings. Senator William H. Seward of New York had the strongest support, but he also had many enemies. Senator Salmon P. Chase of Ohio lacked the united support of even his own state. Lincoln had never held a prominent national office, and had no bitter enemies. He had moderate views on the slavery question. His humbleness

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Jesch. † 18 v. 1800 Freiburg.

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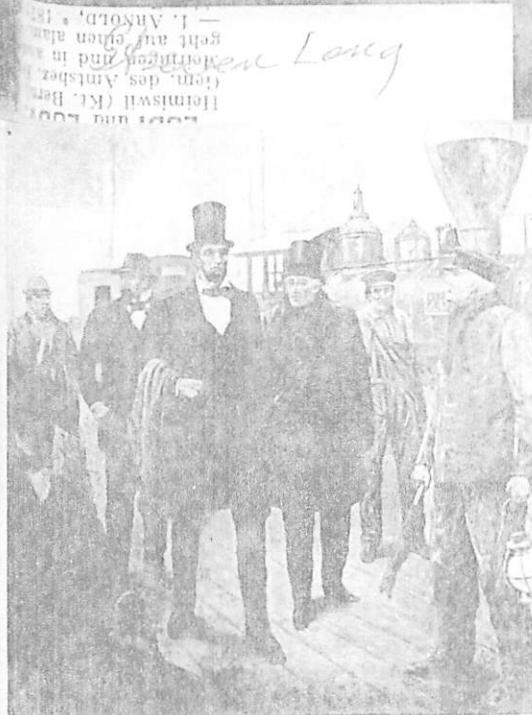
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Lincoln-Douglas Debates were held in 1858 in seven Illinois cities. Lincoln was running against Stephen A. Douglas for the U.S. Senate. The two men debated the extension of slavery into free territory.



Painting by Herbert D. Stitt; Courtesy National Park Service

President-Elect Lincoln arrived in Washington, D.C., secretly. He had cut short a tour of Eastern cities because detective Alan Finkerton, left, learned of an assassination plot.

background could be counted on to arouse great enthusiasm among the voters.

On the first ballot, Seward received 173½ votes, Lincoln 102, and Chase 49. Lincoln gained the support of Pennsylvania and Indiana on the second ballot, and received 181 votes to 184½ for Seward. During the third ballot, Lincoln continued to gain strength. Before the result was announced, Ohio switched four votes from Chase to Lincoln. This gave Lincoln more than the 233 votes needed to win the nomination. The delegates nominated Senator Hannibal Hamlin of Maine for Vice-President.

Like other presidential candidates of his period, Lincoln felt it was undignified to campaign actively. He stayed quietly in Springfield during the election campaign. His followers more than made up for his inactivity. The Democratic party broke into two factions, which helped Lincoln immensely. Senator Douglas, the nation's leading Democrat, had angered the proslavery wing of his party. Northern Democrats nominated him

LINCOLN'S FIRST ELECTION

Place of Nominating Convention.....	Chicago
Ballot on Which Nominated...3rd	
Northern Democratic Opponent.....	Stephen A. Douglas
Southern Democratic Opponent.....	John C. Breckinridge
Constitutional Union Opponent.....	John Bell
Electoral Vote.....	180 (Lincoln) to: 72 (Breckinridge) 39 (Bell) 12 (Douglas)
Popular Vote.....	1,865,593 (Lincoln) to: 1,382,713 (Douglas) 848,356 (Breckinridge) 592,906 (Bell)

LINCOLN, ABRAHAM

for President. The Southern faction of the Democratic party chose Vice-President John C. Breckinridge. A fourth party, calling itself the Constitutional Union party, nominated former Senator John Bell of Tennessee.

Lincoln won election easily, receiving 180 electoral votes to 72 for Breckinridge, 39 for Bell, and 12 for Douglas. But more Americans voted against Lincoln than for him. The people gave him 1,865,593 votes, compared to a combined total of 2,823,975 for his opponents. All Lincoln's electoral votes, and nearly all his popular votes, came from the North.

Lincoln's Administration (1861-1865)

The South Secedes. Events moved swiftly in the South during the months before Lincoln's inauguration. Many Southern leaders had threatened to withdraw their states from the Union if Lincoln should win the election. On Dec. 20, 1860, South Carolina passed an Ordinance of Secession that declared the Union dissolved as far as that state was concerned. By the time Lincoln became President, six other Southern States had seceded. Four more followed later. The seceded states organized themselves into the Confederate States of America. See CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA.

First Inauguration. Lincoln said farewell to his Springfield neighbors on Feb. 11, 1861. He parted with these words: "Here I have lived a quarter of a century, and have passed from a young to an old man. Here my children have been born, and one is buried. I now leave, not knowing when, or whether ever, I may return, with a task before me greater than that which rested upon Washington. Without the assistance of that Divine Being who ever attended him, I cannot succeed. With that assistance I cannot fail."

The long train trip to Washington, D.C., had been carefully planned to include stops at most large Eastern cities. This allowed many thousands of persons to see the man who would be their next President. In Philadelphia, Lincoln heard a report of an assassination plot. In Harrisburg, Pa., his advisers persuaded him to cut short his trip. Lincoln continued in secret to Washington, arriving early on the morning of February 23.

— HIGHLIGHTS OF LINCOLN'S ADMINISTRATION —

- HIGHLIGHTS OF THE CIVIL WAR**

 - 1861 (April 12) The Civil War began.
 - 1861 (April 27) Lincoln proclaimed a blockade of Southern ports.
 - 1861 (July 21) Confederate forces won the first Battle of Bull Run.
 - 1862 (April 6-7) Union troops won the Battle of Shiloh.
 - 1862 (April 16) Congress abolished slavery in the District of Columbia.
 - 1862 (May 20) Congress approved the Homestead Act.
 - 1862 (Sept. 17) Union forces won the Battle of Antietam.
 - 1862 (Sept. 22) Lincoln issued a preliminary proclamation of emancipation.
 - 1862 (Dec. 13) The Union suffered a terrible defeat at Fredericksburg.
 - 1863 (Jan. 1) Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation.
 - 1863 (July 1-3) Union armies won the Battle of Gettysburg.
 - 1863 (July 4) Vicksburg, Miss., fell to Union forces.
 - 1863 (Nov. 19) Lincoln delivered the Gettysburg Address.
 - 1864 (March 9) Grant took command of all Union armies.
 - 1864 (Sept. 1) Sherman's army captured Atlanta, Ga.
 - 1865 (April 9) The Civil War ended.

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On March 4, 1861, Lincoln took the oath of office and became the 16th President of the United States. In his inaugural address, Lincoln denied that he had any intention of interfering with slavery in states where the Constitution protected it. He urged the preservation of the Union. Lincoln warned that he would use the full power of the nation to "hold, occupy, and possess" the "property and places" belonging to the federal government. By "property and places," he meant forts, arsenals, and customhouses. Lincoln's closing passage had great beauty and literary power. He appealed to "the mystic chords of memory, stretching from every battlefield and patriot grave to every living heart and hearthstone all over this broad land."

Lincoln announced his Cabinet the day after his inauguration. Two members, William H. Seward and Salmon P. Chase, had been his principal rivals for the presidential nomination. The Cabinet members represented many shades of opinion. Several of them administered their departments ably. But, as a group, they often gave Lincoln almost as much trouble as help.

Fort Sumter and War. As the Southern States seceded, they seized most of the federal forts within their boundaries. Lincoln had to decide whether the remaining forts should be strengthened. He also had to decide whether to try to retake the forts already in Southern hands.

Fort Sumter, in Charleston Harbor, became a symbol of an indivisible Union. Major Robert Anderson commanded the Union garrison there. If Lincoln withdrew the troops, a storm of protest would rise in the North. If he reinforced Fort Sumter, the South would consider it an act of war.

As a compromise, Lincoln decided to send only provisions to Anderson, whose supplies were running low. He informed South Carolina of his intention. Leaders of the state regarded the relief expedition as a hostile act, and demanded Anderson's surrender. Anderson refused, and on April 12, General Pierre G. T. Beauregard ordered Confederate artillery to fire on the fort. Anderson surrendered the next day. The Civil War began with the bombardment of Fort Sumter. See CIVIL WAR.

Lincoln met the crisis with energetic action. He called out the militia to suppress the "insurrection." He proclaimed a blockade of Southern ports, and expanded the army beyond the limit set by law. Southern sympathizers living in the North were obstructing the war effort. As a result, Lincoln gave the army the right to suspend the privilege of *habeas corpus* in areas where these Southern sympathizers were active (see HABEAS

— VICE-PRESIDENTS AND CABINET —

Vice-President.....	*Hannibal Hamlin *Andrew Johnson (1865)
Secretary of State.....	*William H. Seward
Secretary of the Treasury....	Salmon P. Chase *William P. Fessenden (1864) Hugh McCulloch (1865)
Secretary of War.....	Simon Cameron *Edwin M. Stanton (1862)
Attorney General.....	Edward Bates James Speed (1864)
Postmaster General.....	*Montgomery Blair William Dennison (1864)
Secretary of the Navy.....	*Gideon Welles
Secretary of the Interior.....	Caleb B. Smith John P. Usher (1863)

*Has a separate biography in WORLD BOOK

THE WORLD OF

WORLD EVENTS

- 1861 A gold rush to New Zealand began.
1861 French troops invaded Mexico.
1862 Bismarck became prime minister of Prussia.
1863 The world's first successful subway was built in London.
1864 Napoleon III made Maximilian of Austria the Emperor of Mexico.
1865 Russia captured Tashkent, and all Turkestan fell under Russian rule.

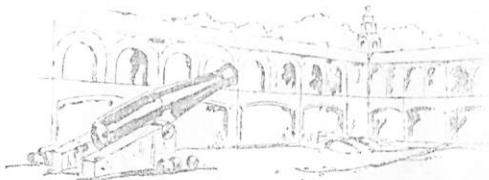


UNITED STATES EVENTS

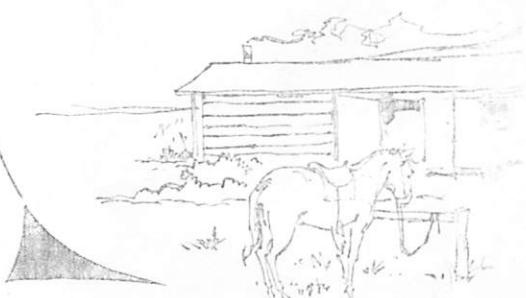
U.S. population was 32,351,000 in 1861. Eleven Southern States, with over 9,000,000 persons, seceded from the Union. West Virginia became a state in 1863, and Nevada in 1864. Congress created the Arizona and Idaho territories in 1863, and the Montana Territory in 1864.



The United States Flag had 33 stars and 13 stripes when Lincoln became President.



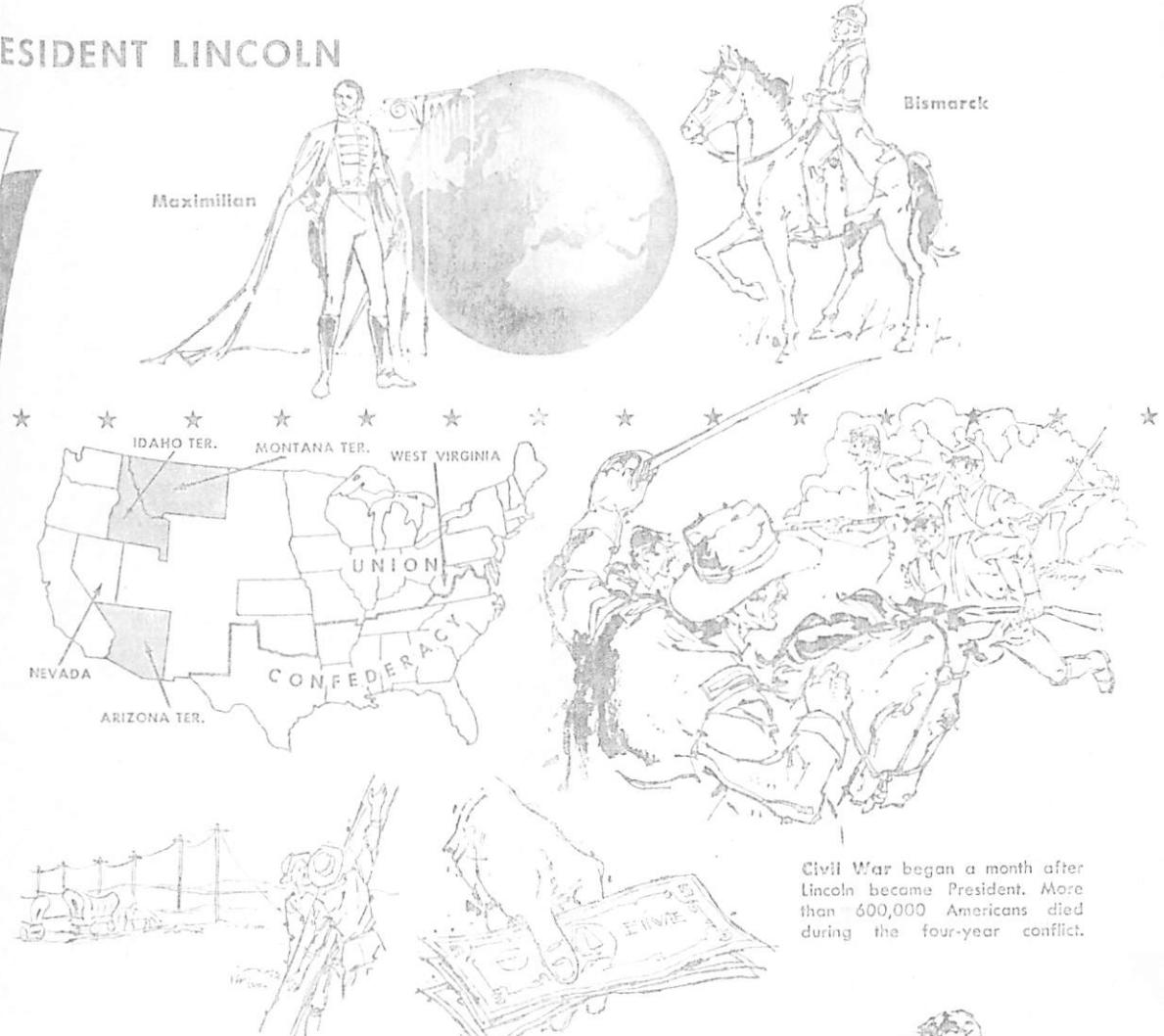
- 1861 The Civil War began on April 12 when Confederate guns fired on Fort Sumter, a Union garrison in the harbor of Charleston, S.C.
1862 Congress created the Department of Agriculture. A commissioner headed the new agency.
1863 The first draft law in United States history, passed on March 3, gave the President authority to require men from 20 to 45 for army service.
1863 President Lincoln delivered the Gettysburg Address on November 19.
1865 General Robert E. Lee surrendered his weary Confederate troops to General Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Court House on April 9.



— I. ARNDT, 1863
"The War Policy
which the Union did
not want to do and in
which the Confederacy did in
order to win the war."

WORLD OF

PRESIDENT LINCOLN

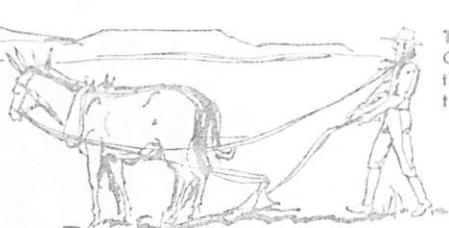


Transcontinental Telegraph line, connecting the eastern part of the United States with California, was completed in 1861.

Free Mail Delivery was established in cities in 1863. Service started in 49 cities, and soon spread throughout the country.



The Homestead Act, passed by Congress in 1862, allowed any settler to obtain 160 acres (65 hectares) of public land without charge.



The Emancipation Proclamation, issued by President Lincoln on January 1, 1863, declared slaves to be free in areas of the Confederate States that were still in rebellion.



— von Dallenwil, 1336 wohn-
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LINCOLN, ABRAHAM



America's Independent Electric Light and Power Companies
Statues of Lincoln stand in cities and towns throughout America. Sculptor Gutzon Borglum designed this striking monument, which stands in front of the county courthouse in Newark, N.J.

CORPUS). He also ordered the spending of federal funds without waiting for congressional appropriations.

Lincoln believed all these actions to be within the war powers granted the President by the Constitution. He justified his acts when Congress met for the first time in his administration in July, 1861. The message Lincoln delivered to Congress ranks as one of his greatest state papers. Chief Justice Roger B. Taney had attacked Lincoln bitterly for suspending habeas corpus. In his message, Lincoln posed a question that no critic then or afterward ever answered: "Are all the laws *but one* to go unexecuted, and the government itself go to pieces lest that one be violated?"

Lincoln felt that the breakup of the American nation would be a tragedy. Not only Americans, but ultimately all mankind, would suffer. To him, the United States represented an experiment in the people's ability to govern themselves. If it failed, kings, dictators, and their supporters could say that people were not capable of ruling themselves, and that someone must rule them. Lincoln regarded the fate of world democracy as the central issue of the Civil War.

Building the Army. Two days after Fort Sumter fell, Lincoln called for 75,000 men for the army. The North offered far more volunteers than the government could equip. By July, 1861, an army had been assembled near Washington. An equal force of Confederates had taken position across the Potomac River in Virginia.

Many Northerners clamored for action. They believed the Union forces could end the war by defeating the Confederates in one battle. Newspaper headlines

Some Famous Lincoln Quotations

Many of Lincoln's most famous quotations are included in the text of this article. Following are several additional quotations from speeches and letters.

Stand with anybody that stands right. Stand with him while he is right and part with him when he goes wrong.

The legitimate object of government, is to do for a community of people, whatever they need to have done, but cannot do, at all, or cannot so well do, for themselves—in their separate and individual capacities.

Nothing new here, except my marrying, which to me, is matter of profound wonder.

Property is the fruit of labor—property is desirable—is a positive good in the world. That some should be rich, shows that others may become rich, and hence is just encouragement to industry and enterprise. Let not him who is houseless pull down the house of another; but let him labor diligently and build one for himself, thus by example assuring that his own shall be safe from violence when built.

As I would not be a slave, so I would not be a master. This expresses my idea of democracy. Whatever differs from this, to the extent of the difference, is no democracy.

Fellow-citizens, we cannot escape history. We . . . will be remembered in spite of ourselves. No personal significance, or insignificance, can spare one or another of us. The fiery trial through which we pass, will light us down, in honor or dishonor, to the latest generation.

If we do not make common cause to save the good old ship of the Union on this voyage, nobody will have a chance to pilot her on another voyage.

The dogmas of the quiet past, are inadequate to the stormy present. The occasion is piled high with difficulty, and we must rise with the occasion. As our case is new, so we must think anew, and act anew.

blazed with the cry "On to Richmond!" The administration yielded to these pressures. Lincoln ordered the Northern army forward under General Irvin McDowell. The result was the first Battle of Bull Run on July 21, in which Confederate forces decisively defeated the Union troops. People in the North now realized that the war would be a long one.

As commander in chief of the army, Lincoln had to select an officer capable of organizing green volunteers into armies and leading them to victory. General George B. McClellan turned out to be a fine organizer. But his Peninsular Campaign of 1862 ended in failure. This campaign had been aimed at capturing Richmond, Va., the Confederate capital. Lincoln relieved McClellan of much of his command. General John Pope was made commander of troops in Virginia. He was defeated in the second Battle of Bull Run, on August 29-30, 1862, and Lincoln called on McClellan to defend Washington. On September 17, "Little Mac" turned back the army of General Robert E. Lee in the Battle of Antietam. Then McClellan refused to move. In early November, Lincoln removed him for the second time, and put General Ambrose E. Burnside in command. Burnside met defeat in the Battle of Fredericksburg on December 13. His successor, General Joseph Hooker, lost the Battle of Chancellorsville on May 1-4, 1863.

Union forces made progress only in the valley of the Mississippi River. There, General Ulysses S. Grant was making a habit of victory. In 1862, Grant's troops won three battles: Fort Henry on February 6, Fort Donelson on February 16, and Shiloh on April 6-7.

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— T. ANDREW, * 187
M. L. Lacey
HOMESTEAD (PA) BORN
DIED 1851

REMINDERS OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN

Lincoln the "Railsplitter." He got this nickname in the campaign of 1860. Many paintings, such as this one by an unknown artist, showed him splitting fence rails.

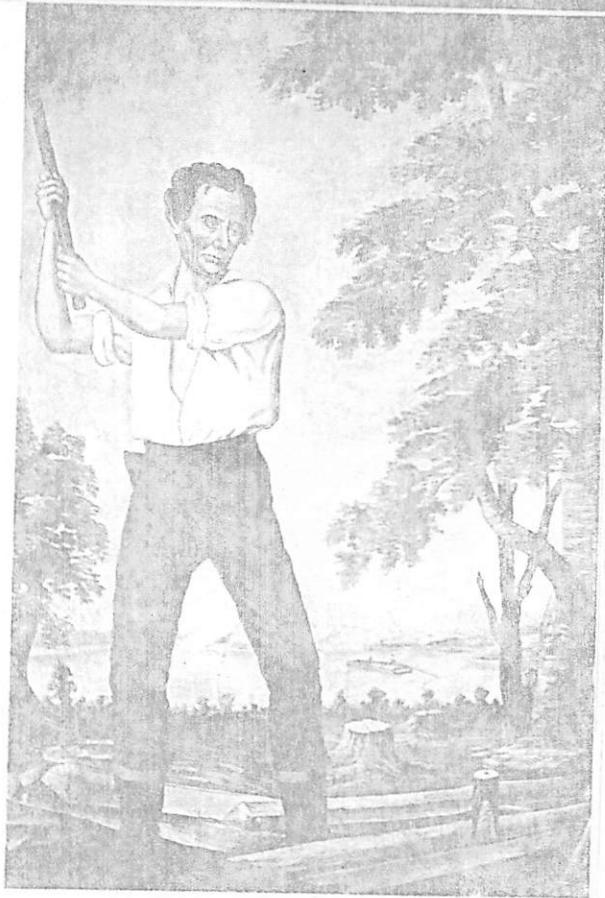
Mementos of Lincoln's Assassination may be seen at Ford's Theatre in Washington, D.C. They are mounted on the door through which John Wilkes Booth entered the presidential box. The items include Mrs. Lincoln's opera-glass case, a playbill, the pistol that fired the fatal shot, a boot worn by Booth, and a poster offering a reward for the capture of the assassin.



By Arnold Newman. Reprinted by special permission from *Holiday*, 99, 1954. Curtis Publishing Co.

Lincoln at Ford's Theatre. This diorama shows Lincoln in his box watching a play just before his assassination. John Wilkes Booth entered the box through the door behind Lincoln, left.

Diorama at the Chicago Historical Society



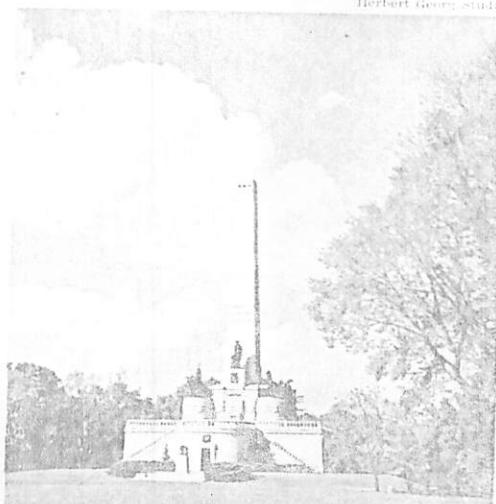
Chicago Historical Society



Carl Sandburg, left, and
many other outstanding histori-
ans and writers have honored
Lincoln in their works.

Lincoln's Tomb stands in the
Oak Ridge Cemetery at Spring-
field, Ill. Thousands of persons
visit the tomb each year.

Herbert Geesey, studio



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LTH, Zeuge 1336. — WELTL,
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[R. D.]
us Westfalen. — 1. AUGUST,
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LINCOLN, ABRAHAM

Strengthening the Home Front. Organization for military success was only one of Lincoln's tasks. Equally important, he had to arouse popular support for the Union armies. Different opinions among the people became plain after their first enthusiasm wore off. Many Northerners were willing to fight to preserve the Union, but not to destroy slavery. Other Northerners demanded that the destruction of slavery should be put above all other goals.

Lincoln realized that the border states would secede if the antislavery extremists had their way. This would mean the loss of Kentucky, Missouri, Delaware, and Maryland. The task of defeating the South would be much more difficult without the support of these states. Besides, the Constitution protected slavery in the states where it existed. Impulsive generals sometimes issued proclamations freeing slaves, but Lincoln overruled them. Time after time, he declared that the purpose of the war was to preserve the Union. His most famous statement was made in a letter to Horace Greeley, editor of the *New York Tribune*. In the letter, dated Aug. 22, 1862, Lincoln said: "My paramount object in this struggle is to save the Union, and is not either to save or to destroy slavery." By taking a moderate position, Lincoln kept all the border states in the Union.

Foreign Relations. While meeting his other challenges, Lincoln managed to keep a check on foreign policy. In 1861, Secretary of State Seward suggested that the United States could be unified by provoking several European nations to war. The President quietly ignored this proposal.

In November, 1861, Captain Charles Wilkes of the U.S. Navy stopped the British ship *Trent* and removed two Confederate commissioners, James M. Mason and John Slidell. The British angrily demanded the release of the two men, and prepared for war to support their demand. The United States formally apologized, and freed Mason and Slidell. By doing so, Lincoln avoided a war that would have been disastrous to the United States. See TRENT AFFAIR.

Life in the White House. To Lincoln, the presidency meant fulfillment of the highest ambition that an American citizen could have. The Civil War destroyed any hope he may have had for happiness in the White House. Aside from directing military affairs and stiffening the will of the North, he carried an enormous burden of administrative routine. His office staff was small. He wrote most of his own letters and all his speeches. He made decisions on thousands of political and military appointments. For hours each day, he saw everyone who chose to call. During all his years in office, Lincoln was away from the capital less than a month.

Lincoln found some relaxation in taking carriage drives, and he enjoyed the theater. He regarded White House receptions and dinners more as duties than as pleasures. Lincoln's frequent visits to army hospitals tore his gentle heart. Late at night, he sometimes found solace by reading Shakespeare or the Bible. But his official duties left little time for diversion.

To Mrs. Lincoln, life in the White House was a tragic disappointment. Her youngest brother, three half brothers, and the husbands of two half sisters were serving in the Confederate army, and she faced constant suspicion

of disloyalty. The pressures of everyday life weighed heavily on her high-strung nature. Jealousy and outbursts of temper cost her many friendships.

Two of Lincoln's sons, William Wallace and Thomas, lived in the White House. For nearly a year, "Willie" and "Tad" enlivened the mansion with their laughter and pranks. Willie's death on Feb. 20, 1862, grieved the President deeply. Mrs. Lincoln could not be consoled. Robert Lincoln had been a student at Harvard when his father was elected. He remained in school until February, 1865, when he was appointed to General Grant's staff as a captain.

The Emancipation Proclamation. By late summer of 1862, Lincoln was convinced that the time had come for a change in policy toward slavery. Several foreign governments sympathized with the South. But they condemned slavery as evil, and thus did not dare support the Confederacy. Freed slaves could serve as Union soldiers. Besides, many Northerners who had been indifferent to slavery now believed that it had to be stamped out. Lincoln decided to issue a proclamation freeing the slaves. He did not ask the advice of his Cabinet, but he did tell the members what he intended to do. On Seward's advice, he withheld the proclamation until a Northern victory created favorable circumstances.

The Battle of Antietam, fought on Sept. 17, 1862, served Lincoln's purpose. He issued a preliminary proclamation five days later. Lincoln declared that all slaves in states, or parts of states, that were in rebellion on Jan. 1, 1863, would be free. He issued the final proclamation on January 1. Lincoln named the states and parts of states in rebellion, and declared that the slaves held there "are, and hence-forward shall be, free." See EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION.

Actually, the proclamation freed no slaves. It applied only to Confederate territory, where federal officers could not enforce it. The proclamation did not affect slavery in the loyal border states. Lincoln repeatedly urged those states to free their slaves, and to pay the owners for their loss. He promised financial help from the federal government for this purpose. The failure of the states to follow his advice was one of his great disappointments.

The Emancipation Proclamation did have a great long-range effect. In the eyes of other nations, it gave a new character to the war. In the North, it paved the way for Amendment 13 to the Constitution. This amendment, adopted in December, 1865, ended slavery in all parts of the United States.

The Gettysburg Address. Union armies won two great victories in 1863. General George G. Meade's Union forces defeated the Confederates under Lee at Gettysburg, Pa., during the first three days of July. On July 4, Vicksburg, Miss., fell to Grant's troops. This city had been the last Confederate stronghold on the Mississippi River. "The Father of Waters again goes unvexed to the sea," Lincoln declared.

On Nov. 19, 1863, ceremonies were held to dedicate a cemetery on the Gettysburg battlefield. The principal speaker was Edward Everett, one of the greatest orators of his day. Everett spoke for two hours. Lincoln was asked to say a few words, and spoke for three minutes.

Many writers have said that Lincoln scribbled his speech while traveling on the train to Gettysburg. This is not true. He prepared the address carefully, well in

John Green Long

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The victories at Gettysburg and Vicksburg seemed to promise an early peace. But the war went on. In March, 1864, Lincoln put Grant in command of all the Union armies. The Army of the Potomac started to march toward Richmond two months later. At the same time, General William T. Sherman began his famous march from Tennessee to Atlanta, and then to the sea.

Election of 1864. Grant met skillful resistance in the South, and suffered thousands of casualties. Many people called him "the butcher," and condemned Lincoln for supporting the cigar-smoking commander. In June, the Republican national convention reluctantly renominated Lincoln for the presidency. Former Senator Andrew Johnson of Tennessee was nominated for Vice-President. The Democrats chose General George B. McClellan as their candidate for President, and Representative George H. Pendleton of Ohio for Vice-President. A group called Radical Republicans persuaded General John C. Frémont to run for President, but he dropped out of the race a month before the election.

Lincoln became less and less popular as the summer wore on. Late in August, he confessed privately that "it seems exceedingly probable that this administration will not be re-elected." Then the military trend changed. Admiral David G. Farragut had won the Battle of Mobile Bay on August 5, and Sherman's hard-marching troops captured Atlanta on September 2. A series of Union victories cleared Confederate forces from the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. Many discouraged Northerners took heart again.

The Union victories helped Lincoln win re-election. He defeated McClellan by an electoral vote of 212 to 21, and a popular majority of more than 400,000 votes.

Second Inauguration. The end of the war was clearly in sight when Lincoln took the oath of office a second time, on March 4, 1865. Grant had besieged Lee's weary troops at Petersburg, Va. The Southern armies were wasting away in Grant's bulldog grip. Sherman left a wide track of destruction as he marched through Georgia and the Carolinas.

For the first time, Lincoln could think of reuniting the nation. He never spoke words more truly characteristic, nor more beautiful, than in his second inaugural address. Instead of demanding vengeance on the South, he asked for "malice toward none" and "charity for all." He implored the people "to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan—to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace . . ."

Photographs taken of Lincoln shortly after his second inauguration show the effect of four years of war. His face had become gaunt and deeply lined. He slept little during crises in the fighting, and his eyes were ringed with black. Lincoln ate his meals irregularly, and had almost no relaxation.

In spite of his exhaustion, Lincoln continued to see widows and soldiers who called at the White House.

LINCOLN, ABRAHAM

His delight in rough humor never deserted him. More than once, he shocked members of his Cabinet by reading to them from such humorists as Artemus Ward and Orpheus C. Kerr. Even so, the strain of melancholy that had appeared in him as a young man deepened.

As a youth, Lincoln's biting wit had once brought him a challenge to a duel from a man he had offended. After that, he made it a point not to hurt other people's feelings. Near the close of the war, he said: "So long as I have been here I have not willingly planted a thorn in any man's bosom."

Lincoln came to have a quiet confidence in his own judgment as he met the trials of war. Yet he had no false pride. He was a man of genuine humility. The war brought out his best qualities. He could rise to each new challenge. He was a master politician, and timed his actions to the people's moods. He led men by persuasion. Horace Greeley said: "He slowly won his way to eminence and fame by doing the work that lay next to him—doing it with all his growing might—doing it as well as he could, and learning by his failure, when failure was encountered, how to do it better."

End of the War. On April 9, 1865, Lee surrendered to Grant at Appomattox Court House in Virginia. Under authority from Lincoln, Grant extended generous terms to Lee and his army. A great wave of joy swept the North when the fighting ended.

Lincoln spoke soberly of the future to a crowd that serenaded him on the night of April 11. Louisiana had applied for readmission to the Union under Lincoln's plan of reconstruction. Many Northerners wanted to impose harsher terms. Some complained that Negroes would not receive the right to vote under Louisiana's new government. "I would myself prefer," said Lincoln, "that it [the vote] were now conferred on the very intelligent, and on those who serve our cause as soldiers."

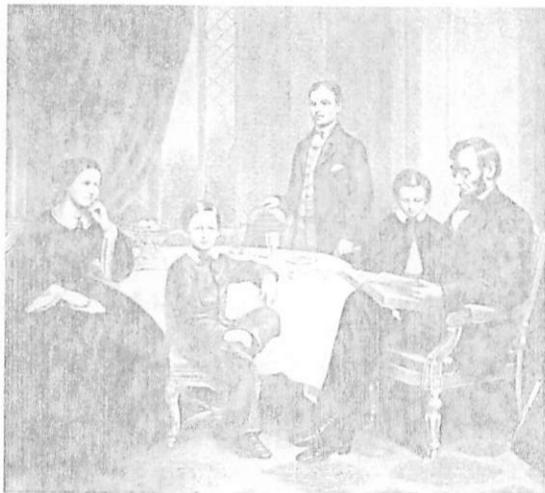
Many persons insisted that Lincoln decide if "the seceded states, so called, are in the Union or out of it." No matter, said the President in his last public address on April 11, 1865, "finding themselves safely at home, it would be utterly immaterial whether they had ever been abroad." Lincoln admitted that the new government of Louisiana was imperfect. But, he asked, "Will it be wiser to take it as it is and help improve it, or to reject and disperse it?"

Assassination. On the evening of April 14, 1865, Lincoln attended a performance of *Our American Cousin* at Ford's Theatre in Washington. A few minutes after 10 o'clock, a shot rang through the crowded house. John Wilkes Booth, one of the best-known actors of the day, had shot the President in the head from the rear of the presidential box. In leaping to the stage, Booth caught his spur in a flag draped in front of the box. He

LINCOLN'S SECOND ELECTION	
Place of Nominating Convention	Baltimore
Ballot on Which Nominated 1st
Democratic Opponent George B. McClellan
Electoral Vote 212 (Lincoln) to 21 (McClellan)
Popular Vote 2,206,938 (Lincoln) to 1,803,787 (McClellan)
Age at Inauguration 56

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LINCOLN, ABRAHAM



Library of Congress

Lincoln's Family. From left to right are Mrs. Mary Todd Lincoln and the Lincoln sons—William Wallace (Willie), Robert Todd, and Thomas (Tad).

fell and broke his leg. But he limped across the stage brandishing a dagger and crying: "Sic semper tyrannis" (Thus always to tyrants), the motto of Virginia.

Lincoln was carried unconscious to a neighboring house. His family and high government officials surrounded him. He died at 7:22 A.M. on April 15.

As President, Lincoln had been bitterly criticized. After his death, even his enemies praised his kindly spirit and selflessness. Millions of people had called him "Father Abraham." They grieved as they would have grieved at the loss of a father. The train carrying Lincoln's body started west from Washington. Mourners lined the tracks as it moved across the country. Thousands wept as they looked upon his face for the last time. On May 4, Lincoln was buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery in Springfield, Ill. The monument on his grave is a place of universal pilgrimage.

The Trial of the Conspirators. After shooting Lincoln, Booth fled to Maryland on horseback. A friend, David E. Herold, a former druggist's clerk, joined Booth there and helped him escape to Virginia. On April 26, 1865, federal troops searching for Booth trapped the two men in a barn near Port Royal, Va. Herold surrendered, but Booth was killed.

Several persons were believed to have been involved with Booth in both Lincoln's assassination and a plot to kill other government officials. Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton ordered agents of his department to arrest them. Besides Herold, the accused conspirators included George Atzerodt, a carriage maker, for planning the murder of Vice-President Andrew Johnson; Lewis Paine, a former Confederate soldier, for attempting to kill Secretary of State William H. Seward; and Mrs. Mary E. Surratt, the owner of a Washington boarding house, for helping the plotters. Booth and the others supposedly planned the crimes in Mrs. Surratt's house.

The Department of War also accused Samuel Arnold and Michael O'Laughlin, boyhood friends of Booth's,

of helping him plan the crimes. Samuel A. Mudd, a Maryland physician who had set Booth's broken leg after the assassination of Lincoln, was charged with aiding the plotters. Edward Spangler, a stagehand at Ford's Theatre, was charged with helping Booth escape.

A nine-man military commission tried the accused conspirators in Washington. The trial began on May 10, 1865, and lasted until June 30. The commission convicted all eight defendants and sentenced Atzerodt, Herold, Paine, and Mrs. Surratt to death. They were hanged on July 7. Arnold, Mudd, and O'Laughlin received sentences of life imprisonment, and Spangler received a six-year sentence. O'Laughlin died in prison of yellow fever in 1867. President Johnson pardoned Arnold, Mudd, and Spangler in 1869. PAUL M. ANGLE

Selected Articles in WORLD Book include:

Abolitionist	Lincoln, Robert Todd
Booth (John Wilkes)	Lincoln Memorial
Breckinridge, John C.	Lincoln's Birthday
Civil War	McClellan, George B.
Davis, Jefferson	Mount Rushmore National Memorial
Douglas, Stephen A.	Mudd, Samuel A.
Emancipation Proclamation	National Park System (National Historic Sites)
Everett, Edward	Political Party
Fort Sumter	President of the United States
Gettysburg Address	Republican Party
Great, Ulysses S.	Rutledge, Ann
Hamlin, Hannibal	Saint-Gaudens, Augustus (picture)
Herndon, William H.	Sandburg, Carl (His Prose)
Illinois (Places to Visit; picture)	Slavery
Johnson, Andrew	Washington, D.C. (Lincoln Memorial; Ford's Theatre)
Kentucky (picture: Lincoln Birthplace)	
Letter Writing (picture)	
Lincoln, Mary Todd	

Outline

- I. Early Life
 - A. Family Background
 - B. Boyhood
- C. Education
- D. Youth on the Frontier
- II. New Salem Years
 - A. Life on His Own
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- C. Search for a Career
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 - A. Study
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 - A. Search for Advancement
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- N. The Trial of the Conspirators

Questions

How did Lincoln become involved in the debates with Douglas? How did the debates affect Lincoln's career? When did Lincoln first express himself on slavery?

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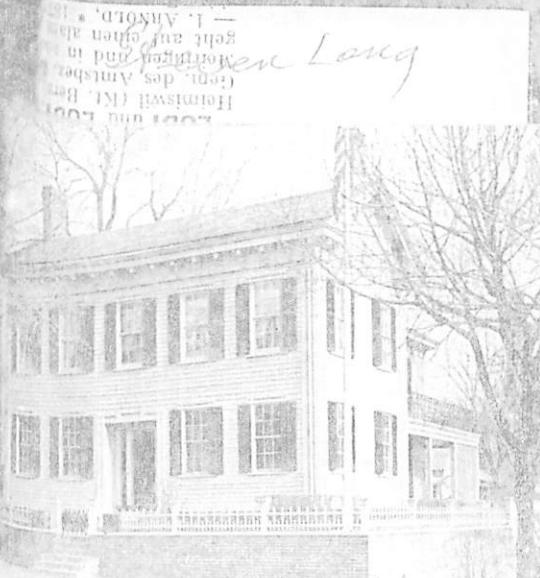
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C. Education
D. Youth on the Frontier
E. Search for a Career
F. Success in Politics
G. Lincoln's Family
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I. A Turning Point
J. The Debates with Douglas
K. Election of 1860

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L. The Emancipation Proclamation
M. The Gettysburg Address
N. Election of 1864
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P. End of the War
Q. Assassination
R. The Trial of the Conspirators

S. In the debates with Lincoln's career?
T. himself on slavery?



Herbert George Studio

Lincoln's Home in Springfield, Ill., is a national historic site. Lincoln bought this plain white frame house in 1844. He and his family lived there until he became President in 1861.

What was Lincoln's first political office?
How did Lincoln study for the bar?
What did Lincoln consider to be the main issue of the Civil War?
How did Lincoln get his early education?
What did Lincoln's second inaugural address show about his intentions toward the South?
What was "circuit riding"? Why did Lincoln enjoy it?
Why did repeal of the Missouri Compromise cause Lincoln to go back into politics?
Why did Lincoln at first deny that the Civil War centered on the issue of slavery? Why did he later change his stand?

Books to Read

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Reading and Study Guide

See *Lincoln, Abraham*, in the RESEARCH GUIDE/INDEX, Volume 22, for a Reading and Study Guide.

LINCOLN, MARY TODD (1818-1882), the wife of President Abraham Lincoln, was the daughter of Robert S. Todd, a banker of Lexington, Ky. She was born on Dec. 13, 1818, and went to school in Lexington. In 1839, at the age of 21, she moved to Springfield, Ill., to live with a married sister. There she met Lincoln, a young lawyer. They were married on Nov. 4, 1842.

Mrs. Lincoln achieved her greatest ambition when her husband was elected President. But her four years as First Lady brought sorrow rather than happiness. Many persons unjustly suspected her of disloyalty to the Union because she came from the South. In addition, Mrs. Lincoln's haughty manner made her unpopular among the wives of government officials. The death of the

LINCOLN HIGHWAY

Lincoln's third son, William Wallace, in 1862 caused her deep grief. In 1865, the shock of the assassination of Lincoln left her a mental and physical wreck.

Years of travel failed to restore Mrs. Lincoln's health, which was further weakened in 1871 by the death of another son, Thomas. Her mental depression deepened until her oldest son, Robert, committed her to a private sanitarium in 1875. She was released the next year. Mrs. Lincoln died on July 16, 1882, in the Springfield home of her sister. She was buried in the Lincoln Tomb in Springfield.

PAUL M. ANGLE

See also LINCOLN, ABRAHAM (Lincoln's Family; Life in the White House; picture).

LINCOLN, NANCY HANKS. See LINCOLN, ABRAHAM (Early Life).

LINCOLN, ROBERT TODD (1843-1926), the oldest son of President Abraham Lincoln, became a well-known statesman and lawyer. In 1881, President James A. Garfield named him secretary of war. Lincoln held the same post under President Chester A. Arthur. From 1889 to 1893, he served as minister to Great Britain. He then became associated with the Pullman Company, and served as president of the firm from 1897 to 1911.

Lincoln was born in Springfield, Ill., and studied at Harvard College and Harvard Law School. He served in the Union Army. After the Civil War, he practiced law. RICHARD N. CURRENT

LINCOLN CATHEDRAL. See CATHEDRAL.

LINCOLN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS is the home for some of New York City's most important cultural activities. The center's six buildings were constructed to house the New York Philharmonic, the Metropolitan Opera Association, Lincoln Center Repertory Theater, the Music Theater, the New York City Ballet and Opera, the New York Public Library, and the Juilliard School. Philharmonic Hall (now Avery Fisher Hall) opened in 1962, the New York State Theater in 1964, the Library and Museum and Vivian Beaumont Theater in 1965, and the Metropolitan Opera House in 1966. The Juilliard School opened in 1969. Each of the center's constituent members is financially and artistically independent. Each is represented on the Lincoln Center Council.

Critically reviewed by the LINCOLN CENTER BOARD

See also ARCHITECTURE (picture: Cultural Centers).

LINCOLN HIGHWAY stretches 3,385 miles (5,448 kilometers) from New York City to San Francisco. It is sometimes called the *Main Street of the United States*. In 1912, Carl G. Fisher had the idea of a transcontinental highway to encourage better roads. The automotive industry raised money for it. President William Howard Taft felt the highway would help national unity. Fisher decided "Lincoln" would be a patriotic name for it. Construction began in 1914. The road is known as U.S. 30 for most of its length.

ARCHIBALD BLACK